

June 8, 2006
Budget Work Session

Minutes

Members present

Brady Wooten- Chairman
Allen Sneed- Vice- Chairman
Leon Casstevens- Commissioner
Kim Clark Phillips- Commissioner
D.C. Swaim- Commissioner

Others Present

Cecil E. Wood- County Manager
Melinda Vestal-Clerk to the Board

Chairman Wooten called the recessed meeting back to order.

Zoning

Mr. Wood discussed with the Board the zoning issue involving Clyde Dinkins and the shooting range. He stated the shooting range does not qualify to be grandfathered because it was not in operation at the time.

Mr. Wood discussed the Flint Hill Winery. He informed the Board that the site plan was not correctly submitted, but Mr. Doub can reapply regarding the wine tasting room.

Budget

Mr. Wood stated the budget was drastically cut last year, but there is no room for additional cuts this year. The county is using \$1.1 million of the fund balance to balance the budget.

Commissioner Phillips inquired about the deal offered to the Board of Education.

Chairman Wooten inquired about the sales tax and the percentage that goes to the Rescue Squad and fire departments.

Mr. Wood stated sales tax is obligated to the schools first, and then divided per population or tax rate. This could be changed but it would affect the towns and fire departments financially.

Health Department

Mike Reavis and Becky Reavis addressed the Board concerning the budget for the health department. Mr. Reavis thanked the Board for the COLA for the employees and providing health insurance. Mr. Reavis stated there are several items that have been cut from his budget; vehicles, new computers, filing cabinets. He asked the Board to reconsider the amount allocated for contract services and vaccines. He informed the Board that some cuts made have to be reinstated because those are state or grant funds, i.e. Medicaid, Smart Start. Mr. Reavis also asked the Board to reconsider the amount allocated for medicines/drugs.

Commissioner Casstevens inquired about the Processor IV position.

Mr. Reavis stated the position was recommended when the Health Department was audited regarding HIPPA compliance.

Commissioner Sneed reviewed 401K and insurance lines for the health department.

Veteran Services

Chuck Knight, Veteran Service Officer, stated he has served as the Veteran Service Officer for the past three years. He informed the Board that in 2005, \$7,934,000 was paid to Yadkin County Veterans. He would like the Board to reconsider his travel line item; reduced from \$4,000 to \$3,000. He would also like the Board to consider a locking filing cabinet. He thanked the Board for approving the shipping costs to ship the packages to Iraq.

Surry Community College

Wayne Matthews addressed the Board concerning the budget for SCC. The requested amount was \$140,000 but it was reduced to \$112,500. Mr. Matthews informed the Board that the programs are growing and he asked of the Board to reconsider the full amount requested. He commented the

College is good stewards of the county's money. Mr. Matthews said the Yadkin Center tries to offer as much as the main campus.

Sheriff

Sheriff Cain and Major Widener addressed the Board concerning their budget. Sheriff stated his budget includes five new vehicles.

There was discussion of the various 401K percentages for the Sheriff's employees.

The Board discussed the jail.

Commissioner Phillips inquired about the fuel use for the Sheriff's Department?

Major Widener stated they are currently \$41,000 over the budgeted amount for fuel, but they have managed to move monies from other line items to cover the overage.

Sheriff Cain stated he provides a full service operation responding to all calls. Yadkin County is the only county still offering full service; averaging 3,200 calls per month.

Schools

Mr. Wood stated the schools have been allocated a flat allocation.

Dr. Todd informed the Board of the State's proposed percentage increases for school personnel. She commented on the increase in fuel costs. Dr. Todd informed the Board that receiving the same amount as last year may eliminate 36 positions which would include media assistants, ISS teachers, clerical and custodial positions. The BOE has encouraged teachers to work on their masters. The BOE has assisted lateral entry teachers with tuition fees; this would also mean a \$30,000 reduction in those funds. The cut would also include \$78,000 in instructional supplies to the schools.

Dr. Todd recognizes the serious position the Board of Commissioners are in but she also recognizes that cutting \$1.2 million from the schools budget is also very serious.

Commissioner Phillips inquired about the possible creative way to provide money to the schools.

Mr. Wood stated that as an alternative for the schools, the lottery funds for one year, the LGC could be requested to use part of the initial lottery proceeds for capital outlay, thus allowing the sales tax money to be used for current expense. This would be a one time opportunity. The LGC would have to approve this along with both Boards, but that does not mean that they would approve it.

Mr. Wood stated that sales tax revenue did not reach projected amounts.

Dr. Todd stated she had not fully discussed the creative option with the Board of Education and she did not want to speak for then at this time. She thanked Mr. Wood for his efforts.

The Board discussed school personnel positions.

Tammy Poindexter, a school media coordinator, stated that media assistants are needed because media coordinators already wear many hats.

Mr. Wood informed the Board that he is working on space for ADVP.

Dr. Todd thanked the Board and Mr. Wood for their efforts on behalf of the students in the Yadkin County School System.

The Board set June 14th as a budget work session.

Other

Chairman Wooten inquired about the sewer project with Arcadis,

Mr. Wood stated the design process is being started.

Chairman Wooten asked about Hwy 601 and Advantage Machinery.

Mr. Wood stated Arcadis is handling the bid process. The project was approved by EDA.

Mr. Wood informed the Board that a meeting has been scheduled with the Secretary of DENR, June 22nd at 11:00 a.m. Those attending would be Chairman Wooten, Mr. Wood, Chair Mendenhall, and Dr. Todd.

The Board discussed the courthouse.

Closed Session

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to go in closed session per G.S, 143.318-11(a)(6), to discuss personnel. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner comments

Commissioner Sneed informed the Board of a rabid fox on Center Road.

The Board discussed the rabies cases in the county.

The Board denied the request from Alice Singh to be on the June 19th agenda. The Board decided to review the adoption policy before taking any other action.

Mr. Wood asked the Board about the r-o-w for Dinkins Bottom Road.

The Board agreed to sign off on the r-o-w and allow the State to pay the county \$325.

Recess

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to recess the meeting until June 14th at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Melinda Vestal, Clerk to the Board